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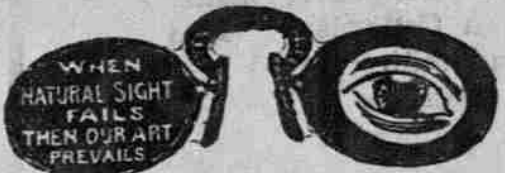
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HAWAII AS IT APPEARS TO A GLOBE TROTTER

Good Tourist Literature From the Pen of a Wandering Massachusetts Man—Fine Tribute to Hawaii and Honolulu.

The following narrative of travel appeared in the Newton (Mass.) Journal of Nov. 4:

Honolulu, September, 1904. The written history of these islands begins with Captain Cook's discovery in 1778. Historians and ethnologists tell us that the natives are of Polynesian race, of Aryan stock migrating at remote periods from Asia Minor through India, Sumatra and Java to the South Pacific Islands, thence to New Zealand, Samoa, Tahiti and Hawaii. This is corroborated not only by a comparison of the races but by archives of the priesthood and by traditions of over forty generations.

The Hawaiian legends are as romantic and picturesque as those of the more classical races and fully as well authenticated. In my trip to the volcano of Kilauea I met two ladies, natives and residents of New Zealand, of English parentage, traveling like myself for study and observation, who told me that they had found so many names in these Hawaiian legends corresponding substantially with names in their own, both of people and places, that it was a constant surprise to them.

Speaking of Captain Cook I recall the account of his death as it appeared in the school readers and speakers of my boyhood. The feeling of indignation at what I regarded as a cold-blooded assassination had lingered with me until my reading in preparation for this journey, and now that I am here and have discussed the matter from both standpoints—one of which the aforesaid readers and speakers failed to give—I am quite reconciled. It appears to me as a piece of stern retribution and grim justice. Captain Cook and his sailors were unfaithful to almost all of the rules of courtesy and fair play. They defiled the temples of the people and their gods, lampooned the living and reviled the dead.

The total area of the islands is 6740 square miles. Captain Cook's estimate of the population was 400,000. The entire population of the Hawaiian Islands now is about 155,000, of which 65,000 are native born and 90,000 foreign born. Of the native born, about 55,000 are of the aboriginal race, about one-third of which are mixed.

There are 12,000 white people, 25,000 Chinese, 60,000 Japanese, a few negroes and from 2 to 5000 Portuguese and Portuguese, the latter having been recently introduced to work on the sugar plantations.

However, it is not for the purposes of this article to go further into statistics than would seem necessary for an intelligent understanding of the discussion.

The time is past for a controversy over annexation, excepting by politicians rather than patriots. These islands are a part of the United States of America, and while I have met a few politicians in the States who predicted their country's ruin in consequence, I have not found such here of any race or nation.

Until within 75 years a feudal aristocracy prevailed here as pronounced as that of the Middle Ages in Europe. The lands were vested in the Crown, which allotted portions for civil or military services with a limited power of transmission and alienation, and these in turn, leased small tracts to the common people who held nothing in fee simple.

Then came the missionaries of both the Roman Catholic and Protestant faiths. The Catholic missionaries suc-

ceeded in making the larger number of proselytes, numbered at least, by the records of baptisms, and I judge they were generally more loyal to the crown. The New England Protestant missionaries, however, accomplished much more in the way of teaching the people and improving them materially and especially in bringing about a revolution in landed titles. It is said that these missionaries often became "well to do" and that their children are among the rich people of these islands. There seems to be no allegation nor any evidence whatever that this was the result of unfair dealing. It was rather taking fair advantage of the opportunities for legitimate enterprise which then abounded and which, to a more limited extent, still prevail. If these missionaries' sons have become wealthy, they have done so no more rapidly in proportion to their capacities than have the natives whose interests they espoused.

It is far different from the results in all of the western hemisphere south of the United States, and as I understand it, in the Philippines (though I have not been there) where the Christian church and its priesthood have secured so large a proportion of the real and personal property and the people have so little left.

At present the Hawaiian people are practically agnostics and the hand of no church rests heavily upon them.

THE REVOLUTION.

It is undoubtedly true that the overthrow of the monarchy in the Hawaiian Islands was aided by the Protestant missionaries and the American merchants, but it was the most logical and peaceful revolution in the history of any country and could not have been accomplished had not a large proportion of the most superior native people been in sympathy. The later monarchy was not a tyranny and Queen Liliuokalani is undoubtedly an estimable woman, but the time had come when the rights of the people should have been more fully recognized, and it was the old story of reform which seldom comes to either the government or the church from the inside but must be forced from without.

I could never understand the action of President Cleveland, whom we all believe to be a patriotic and high-minded man. Mr. Blount, from Georgia, was sent here during the time of the provisional government with "paramount authority" and he is to this day called by many here "Paramount Blount."

Mr. Blount, within a few days after his landing, and certainly without time to investigate the issues or the people, but acting upon a previous inspiration or conviction, issued the following order, viz:

"To U. S. Rear Admiral Skerrett, Sir: You are directed to haul down the United States ensign from the government building and to embark the troops now on shore in the ships to which they belong. This will be executed at 11 o'clock on April 1st. I am, sir, your obedient servant."

"JAMES H. BLOUNT."

This order was issued March 31st and it is to be remembered that Mr. Cleveland took his seat on March 4th. I have not the facts before me, but I am informed that this order was issued within one week after Mr. Blount's arrival, although he was sent here to investigate.

The survival of the republic and the subsequent annexation to the United States, were but the results of impel-

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ling forces and events which were more "paramount" than Mr. Blount.

We thus obtained the key to the Pacific Ocean. Of the beauty of the islands I shall speak later. In view of the mighty events now transpiring in the Orient and the building of the Panama Canal, leading, as I believe they will, to commercial changes and revolutions almost too grand to horoscope or anticipate with any regard to detail, but which will leave us the acknowledged power dominating the Pacific between China, Japan, the Philippines and United States of America, it appears that our statesmen have either been very fortunate or almost prescient. In any event, they are entitled to great credit and so are the officers and supporters of the provisional government who stood so manfully and bravely to their guns in this trying episode and whose wisdom, integrity and justice have been so fully vindicated.

In reading the history of these events an American trembles to see how nearly we came, in several instances, to losing these islands and seeing them go to another power which, by right of sovereignty here, would have been entitled to the lion's share of the Pacific trade.

THE NATIVES.

Are the people here contented? To answer this question a brief description of them is essential. When I say "people" I mean the natives, for, while they are but one-third of the population they are obviously entitled to first consideration. My views have been as abruptly revolutionized regarding them as in the matter of the equities of Captain Cook's death. I had been taught (perhaps by the same books in which I had read of Cook) that the natives were savages; cannibals indeed. Nothing could have been more untrue. The missionaries found no such inhabitants. On the contrary they found a gentle, affectionate, loyal and law-abiding race, probably the best of any of the primitive races; better than the ancient Gaul, Saxon or Briton from whom most Americans descended, and as good as the Teutonic hordes who overran the Latin countries. There is no comparison between them and the aborigines of North America.

They are more like the Aztecs of Mexico. If one doubts their forcefulness or courage, let him read the wars of King Kamehameha I, fought but little over 100 years ago, as well as the rest of the history of the islands. They have chosen to be a peaceful people but have been as terrible as the Japanese when driven to war. The present generation has had the advantage of a compulsory common school education and has less illiteracy than may be found in almost any of our United States.

At the time of the discovery by Captain Cook they were practically free from the ordinary vices of men save (measured by the Christian standard) in sexual relations; and even in that matter I find no fair account or evidence that their relations have been indecent or that they were paraded in public, but simply that the marriage relation was and is regarded differently, and, like the Japanese, they have evolved from a different stock and stem than we and with different customs. Customs and marriage laws differ in all countries and in most of our own states. That there is more inconstancy among them from their standpoint than among Christians from theirs, I find

all fair-minded and thinking men make question. The missionaries and the public schools have greatly changed and improved the people in this particular. They have taken on some of the vices of civilization but I am informed that fewer are addicted to the use of alcoholic liquor to excess than is true among Europeans, and the average is very much lower than among the subjects of Great Britain wherever they are found.

With them, as a whole, the rights of property are sacred. You may leave your pocket book filled with gold in a public place and the chances are better that it would not be touched or that it would be returned to you than would be the case in any part of our country or Europe. They are neither thieves, liars or murderers. You need not lock your doors day or night.

The more fortunate ones (who number at least one-third of the population of these islands) are large, strong, handsome people. I have seen here as comely men and women, apparently unmixed with aborigines as you would see in Spain of pure Castilian blood. Those of mixed blood remind me much of the Andalusians of Southern Spain, the descendants of the Castilian and the Moor. The other two-thirds of the population may fairly be divided into a middle and lower class and they would not compare unfavorably with those classes of Europeans excepting that they are much better educated than the Italian races. They are of a rich, dark brown color and where mixed have a yellow tinge.

This applies to all classes. The entire native population are fine-looking, the first and second thirds especially so. They dress about as we do. There is every evidence that these people are as a whole contented, and they show a great deal of patriotism and zeal for their new government and its flag. I have had a rare opportunity. At the time of this writing I have just returned from a trip of 5 days from Honolulu, on the island of Oahu, to Hilo, on the island of Hawaii, at the other extreme of the group.

I went with the delegation from Oahu, taking on others at intermediate islands, to the Republican Territorial Convention held at Hilo. Fully two-thirds of the delegates were natives and represented largely the first and second classes as above described. I became acquainted with most of them and nearly all spoke English well. At several places on the trip—at Hilo especially—patriotic speeches were made and the "Stars and Stripes" were unfurled and cheered to the echo. I observed no remonstrance and should almost have thought myself travelling in our far West where sentiments are practically unanimous affecting our country and its policy.

In talking with these intelligent delegates, I discovered no serious sign of discontent. The principal objection they raised was substantially this: Since annexation and within four years the government of the United States has received from the Hawaiian Islands \$4,259,546.84 in revenue with a net profit to the federal treasury of \$2,254,663.69. Many public works have deteriorated since annexation and these fair-minded Hawaiians think that the government is a little slow in making appropriations commensurate with the revenue received. All other complaints seemed to have faith that all would speedily be righted. Let us hope so.

The speeches, both enroute and at the convention, were fair, eloquent and patriotic. There was less of demagoguery than I expected, and indeed, would have found in the side shows and post prandial exercises of the delegates to the average political convention of our own states. Vastly less than we find at our caucuses.

The Republicans are confronted with a political element calling itself the Home Rule party, which is substantially the Democratic party of these islands, as I understand it. It means statehood to some, independence to the more radical.

AS TO STATEHOOD.

It will be asked why, if these people are so superior, should they not speedily attain statehood?

The following reasons are sufficient without offering the more general ones of policy or politics. It is comparatively a recent thing here that education has been general and compulsory, although it existed for some 40 years before annexation. Before that it was rather a matter of church and missionary effort and necessarily more limited, but of course, the infancy of education was a struggling one. Most of the men I met at the convention are up to a high standard, but the attainment must be more universal and of at least two generations. If one is intensely democratic and can see no good in either a monarchy or in a subject province or territory, he could well enough shout here for immediate statehood, for there is no doubt that the white element is of a high average and the native element quite up to the standard of many of our states—but the time has come to go slower in admitting states into the Union.

But there are other reasons of vast importance at present and which are peculiar to these islands. Nearly two-thirds of the people are Asiatics—Japanese and Chinese—who cannot become American citizens. While these Asi-

(Continued on page 6.)

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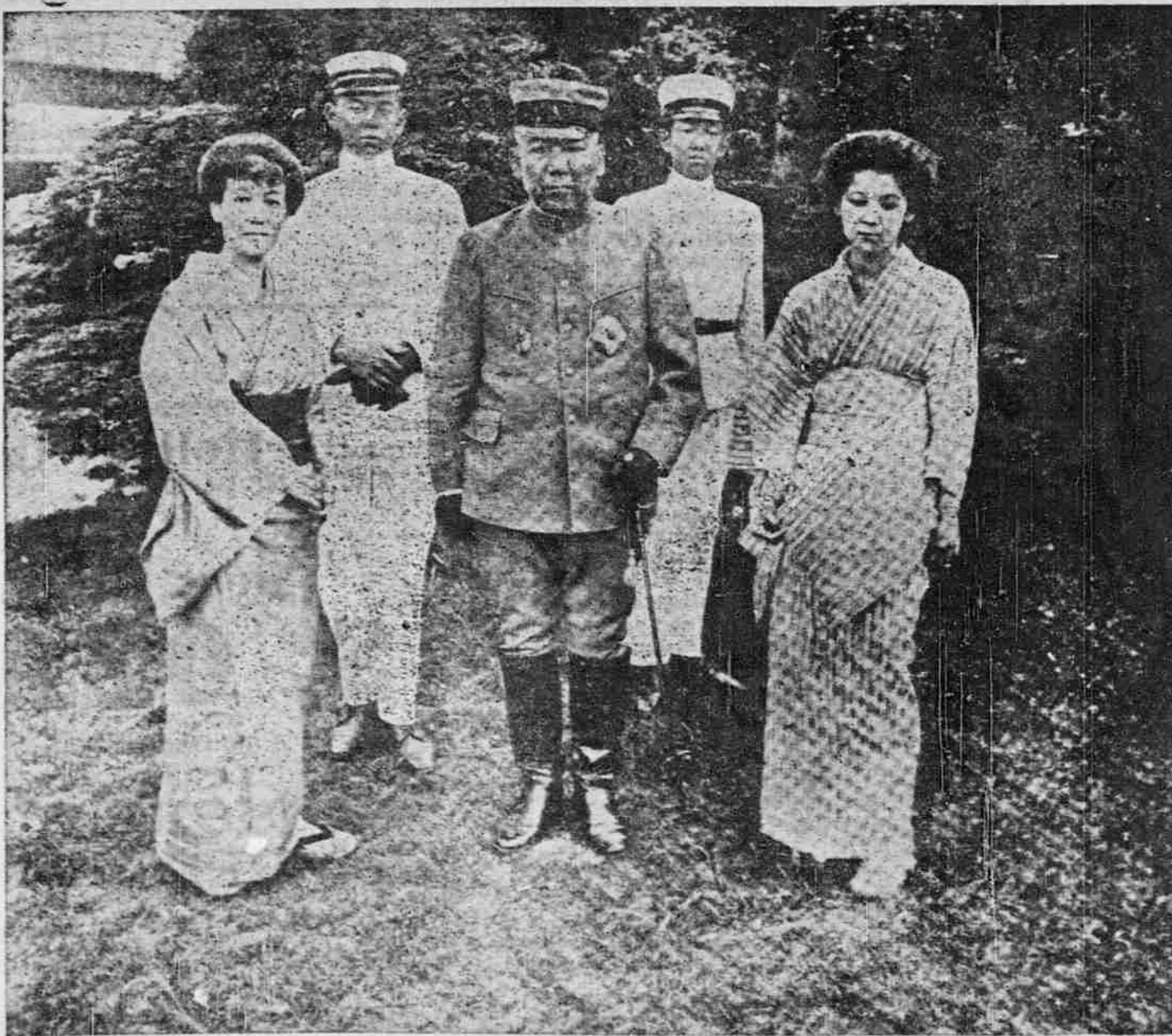
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